

Winter 1961

Police Science Book Reviews

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarlycommons.law.northwestern.edu/jclc>

 Part of the [Criminal Law Commons](#), [Criminology Commons](#), and the [Criminology and Criminal Justice Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Police Science Book Reviews, 52 J. Crim. L. Criminology & Police Sci. 474 (1961)

This Criminology is brought to you for free and open access by Northwestern University School of Law Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology by an authorized editor of Northwestern University School of Law Scholarly Commons.

Question: Does the procedure for release or control of mentally ill persons endanger police officers?

As other cases are received they will, of course, be included in the detailed evaluation of material. Studies which will follow are listed below:

1. A tactical study of shootings involved in vehicle occupant control.
 2. A tactical study of shootings involved in removing suspects from buildings.
 3. An evaluation of the effectiveness of the .38 S & W Special as a police service cartridge.
 4. A tactical and equipment study involving officers shot with their own sidearms.
- Reports resulting from these studies will be

made available to any agency on request, whether or not they contributed to the project. Address all such requests to: Department of Police Science and Administration, Los Angeles State College, Los Angeles 32, California. (Submitted by A. P. Bristow, L. A. State College.)

Police Chief Wanted—Oak Park, Ill., excellent residential suburb of Chicago, population 61,000. Budget \$650,000. Police personnel 77, civilians 30. Appointment salary up to \$10,620. Contact Mark E. Keane, Village Manager, Municipal Building, Oak Park, Illinois.

POLICE SCIENCE BOOK REVIEWS

Edited by

Richard L. Holcomb*

LEADERSHIP FOR THE POLICE SUPERVISOR. By Clifford L. Scott, Charles C Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Ill., 1960, Pp. 195, \$7.50.

The success of any police organization is more dependent upon proper leadership than upon any other factor. Many excellent police organizations are poorly housed, equipped, and paid, but so long as there is good leadership, they do a good job and will be more likely to get the needed facilities than will the force where leadership is lacking. It has been only recently that we have seen effective attempts to develop police leadership. Selection procedures have tried to pick good leaders and have certainly been of value when they have been well developed. At the same time, even the best potential leader has much to learn, and it is only recently that we have made an attempt to teach the things that a good leader should know.

One reason that we have been slow in teaching leadership is that this is a most difficult thing to do. There is a lot of so called "common sense" involved, and it has been said that you can teach about anything but common sense. However, Col. Scott has written a book that pretty well covers not only the basic methods of leadership but a great many of the important minor points. Anyone

* Chief, Bureau of Police Science, Institute of Public Affairs, State University of Iowa, Iowa City.

in a position of leadership in the police field will benefit a great deal from the study of this book. The so called "natural leaders" will become even better, and men with no apparent leadership ability can greatly improve. This book comes as near to teaching "common sense" as it can be done.

This was not any easy book to write. Nothing like this has been written in the police field. True, there have been some excellent articles, brief sections in books, and some lectures on various aspects of leadership. Industry, and the armed forces, have been exploring and developing methods of leadership training. Col. Scott has learned from these sources and from his police experience and written a completely new book. This is in no way a rehash of military or industrial manuals. It is pointed directly at the police and written in police terms. Equally important, it is written in a way that police officers can understand because the author has used a police vocabulary and avoided the long, seldom used words that many writers in a complex field seem to use just to show they know these many-syllabled words. It is not intended to give the impression that he is talking down to policemen or that this is a primer of some kind. It most certainly is not, for this book contains many new ideas, and since it deals in part with intangibles, many ideas that are not

easy to explain. It will require careful reading, and then re-reading and study. If you do this you will learn something every time you go over the material. A police officer will profit by the study of this book if he is a leader of any rank or if he ever hopes to become a leader.

Chapter headings are: The Police Supervisor; The Supervisor and the Man; The Supervisor and the Group; The Supervisor and the Command; The Headquarters; Leadership Problems; Training; The Police Officer Views His Supervisor; and Philosophy and the Police. Each chapter is an excellent discussion of the topic. The material on organization is especially good, and the treatment of this topic here is much better than in most books on police organization, even though it is quite brief for it does an excellent job of orienting the supervisor into the many functions of a police organization.

The chapter "Philosophy and the Police" is unique. Many officers will skip this chapter or give it a fast reading because they think it is beyond them or that this sort of thing just does not apply to police work. However, even a brief reading will show that the author really has something here. He says "Whenever men gather to discuss a problem or an idea and talk about their opinions and beliefs, there philosophy comes into play". We should remember that philosophy is simply a way of talking about and thinking about any sort of a problem. The greatest thinkers of history have made contributions on *how* to think about something. Their contribution has been the *way* to work toward a solution of a problem, rather than the solution of the problem. Here we need all the help we can get. This chapter is not going to make philosophers out of all policemen, but as the author says, "If, however, but one police administrator, or commander, or supervisor, or patrolman has gained a new insight into philosophic thinking, then this brief offering is worth the effort put forth".

Here is a good book. You can learn a great deal from the considerable material presented. At the same time, you may well develop new and productive approaches to baffling police problems. This is difficult material, well presented, and as easy to read as any book of this sort can be. The author has a unique combination of experience including very practical service in a good, large police department. He writes well, and he writes for policemen. The cartoons used as illustration

are excellent. It is certain that he will get many police officers to thinking, something we need to do.

R. L. H.

THE AUXILIARY POLICE UNIT. By *Everett M. King*, Charles C Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Ill., 1961, Pp. 215, Illus. 27. \$8.75.

In view of the growing interest in civil defense and the impending reorganization at the federal level, this book should be of more than ordinary interest. However, this book is in no way confined to auxiliary police units designed to function solely in the case of a war caused emergency. This material applies very well to all auxiliary units for use in all types of police action.

There has been varying experience with auxiliary police units ranging from highly successful to out and out failure. As a result, some people believe that it is either not possible to form a successful unit, or if it is, it is not worth the time and trouble. The author very well refutes this position. He bases his stand on an excellent background in law enforcement and direct and responsible experience with one of the most effective auxiliary units yet organized, that of the Alameda County, California Sheriff's Office.

The author not only covers the general to very specific methods used in developing an effective organization, but very ably discusses the philosophy of this type of organization, he goes into the "why" as well as the "how". This allows the reader to see the principles involved, to see how he can solve his own special problems, and how he can avoid problems. It is not easy to have the sort of insight that Mr. King has developed. We all too often start out by doing something, rather than taking time to figure out just what we really want to do, just what our objective is. As a result, we often fail after a lot of hard work without really knowing what happened to us. His book will help avoid this.

The chapter heading summarizes the material covered: The Case for Auxiliary Units; Planning for Action; Financing and Staffing the Auxiliary Unit; Organizing the Auxiliary Police Unit; Recruiting Auxiliary Police Personnel; Administering an Auxiliary Police Unit; Training Auxiliary Police Personnel; Equipping the Auxiliary Police Unit; Stimulating Interest in Auxiliary Police Activity; Regulation and Discipline of the Auxiliary Police Unit and; Special Service Auxiliary Units.

Mr. King has covered much material here, and it is noteworthy that he has gone into some areas that are often left out of police texts, for example, regulation and discipline is rarely discussed yet some of the most difficult administrative problems arise in this area.

It should further be pointed out that this is not just a rehash of the usual police material, but rather that this book takes sound methods of police organization and applies them directly to the auxiliary units. There are many differences between the operation of a full time, salaried, police organization and the operation of an auxiliary unit, even though it may often appear that they are very much the same. If these differences are not recognized, the unit is likely to fail. On the other hand because of the authors sound experience in law enforcement and his very practical experience with an outstanding auxiliary unit, he has written a book that will be of great value to anyone assigned either to develop, improve and work in any way with auxiliary units.

I have long been convinced of the value of police auxiliaries and have had some experience in developing such units. I only wish that I had had this sort of a book when I started, and I am very happy to have it now, for it will be a real value. The author has a very practical and well written book on an important, yet neglected, subject. He is to be complimented.

R. L. H.

KILL OR GET KILLED. By *Col. Rex Applegate*. Military Service Division, The Stackpole Co. Harrisburg, Penn. Fourth Edition, 1961. Pp. 381, numerous illus. \$3.75.

The title is a little dramatic, but aside from that, this is a basically sound book. While the Colonel is a retired army officer, all of the material applied very well to police situations.

This is more than a hand-to-hand combat book

(of which there are too many). While it does cover some basic hand-to-hand combat including both knife attack and defense, there is considerable sound and well presented material on the pistol, shoulder weapons, and tear gas. There are good sections on prisoner handling and control, raids, room combat, chemical munitions (mostly tear gas), elementary fieldcraft, and training techniques and combat ranges.

The Colonel definitely has not written a text to serve as a guide in a new form of sport. He is out after blood, or preventing someone from shedding his, and he does not fool around with the little niceties that some of the judo, karate, and similar texts teach.

This book could not be recommended if it was just another in a long series of hand-to-hand combat books. It is much more than that, and it will be of definite value in police libraries.

R. L. H.

SAFETY IN POLICE PURSUIT DRIVING. By *Edward E. Dougherty*. Charles C Thomas Publisher, Springfield, Ill., 1961. P. 99. \$4.25.

Mr. Dougherty wrote *Pursuit Driving* as a publication for the U.S. Treasury Department, published in 1957 and available from the U.S. Government Printing Office for fifteen cents. It is doubtful that this new book is worth the \$4.10 difference. If you would buy the fifteen cent book and *Pursuit in Traffic Law Enforcement* and *Stopping and Approaching the Violator* from Northwestern University Traffic Institute for a total of ninety five cents for all three publications, you would have more, and equally sound material.

Aside from this excessive cost, I can see no real objection to this book. It does have some value, but it is far short of the high level that the California Highway Patrol has attained in its pursuit driving training program for members of that excellent force.

R. L. H.